

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

June 15, 1981

USSR-POLAND: Officials Deny Imminent Intervention

A number of Soviet and East European officials over the past week have stated that there are no plans for an imminent Soviet military intervention in Poland. [REDACTED]

The chief editor of the Soviet party's ideological journal *Kommunist* on Friday assured [REDACTED] that armed intervention was not under consideration by the Soviets. The editor, who recently visited Poland, claimed that the Soviet letter to the Polish Central Committee was an attempt to be responsive to the growing concerns among Polish Communists over the deteriorating situation in their country. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Moscow will await the results of the Polish party congress before deciding on military intervention. If the new leadership elected at the congress adopts firm measures to reverse the tide of liberalization and revive the Polish economy, the Soviets would give the new course "several months." [REDACTED]

Moscow does not have much hope, however, that such measures will be adopted because of the failure last week of party conservatives to oust party chief Kania and the election of numerous Solidarity members as delegates to the congress. [REDACTED] the USSR is fully prepared and will not hesitate to intervene militarily, despite what it realizes are enormous costs. [REDACTED]

Two high-level East European officials also contend that no Soviet military intervention is imminent. Bulgarian Foreign Minister Mladenov told [REDACTED] last Tuesday that talk of a Soviet military move was "pure speculation" and that only Poland can solve its own problems. Romanian Foreign Minister Andrei told [REDACTED] yesterday that his government sees no evidence of an imminent military intervention in Poland, contradicting comments made to Western officials by two Romanian diplomats last week. [REDACTED]

--continued

Approved for Release
Date AUG 1999

CIACO

NID 81 [REDACTED]

June 15, 1981

Party Elections

Kania and several of his moderate supporters were elected on Saturday as delegates to the party congress, a prerequisite for reelection to the party leadership. To demonstrate his continuing strength in the party, Kania probably sought delegate status quickly after the open challenges last week from Moscow and the Polish hardliners. [REDACTED]

Nearly 600 of the 2,000 delegates have been elected to the congress so far, including five Politburo members, four of whom are known as moderates or liberals. One Politburo member has been defeated, and one has decided not to run. None of the most outspoken hardliners has yet won a seat. The elections will continue until the end of this month. [REDACTED]

The Soviets and the hardliners are concerned that nearly one-third of the delegates elected so far also are members of Solidarity and that there have been far-reaching changes in the party leaderships at the local and provincial levels. More than one-half of the first secretaries and members of executive committees have been removed from office. [REDACTED]

Anti-Soviet Incident in Lublin

The splashing of paint on a Soviet war memorial in Lublin on Saturday may well have been the work of Polish hardliners seeking to link such "anti-Soviet" acts to Solidarity. The incident comes on the heels of increasing attention by the Soviet media to similar acts elsewhere in Poland. Solidarity leader Walesa, who was in Lublin at the time, called the incident a "provocation," and Solidarity members were sent to clean up the memorial. [REDACTED]